

2007. From school years 1999–2000 to 2009–2010, the total amount of Title IV federal financial aid awarded to students jumped from \$62.1 billion to an estimated \$146.5 billion, an increase of 136 percent.

FAD recognizes that assisting citizens of all ages to attain a higher education puts aid administrators among the forefront of this nation's efforts to compete in the global economy and contribute to the common good. Without such dedicated administrators, an untold number of students from diverse financial backgrounds would not be able to continue their pursuit of higher education due to a lack of necessary information and counseling.

Mr. Speaker, a post-secondary education would be unachievable for many of our nation's students without federal student aid. As such, I welcome the opportunity to honor those who serve these students on a daily basis. I support the goals of Financial Aid Day and I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to recognize the important role played by financial aid professionals in helping students realize their college dreams.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HERO STREET MEMORIAL PARK

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our veterans and wish to focus in particular on a specific street in Silvis, Illinois. In the town of Silvis, Second Street holds so much history from World War II and the Korean War. On Saturday October 29, 2011 the people of Silvis will be celebrating the 40 Year Anniversary Celebration of Hero Street Memorial Park.

In honor of the brave soldiers who lived on this street and whose families have made the park their own; I introduced a resolution to designate the park on Hero Street as "Hero Street Memorial Park" earlier this year and I am pleased that we are able to honor these brave warfighters.

The brave men who fought in World War II and the Korean War from this little street were the sons of Mexican immigrants to the U.S. and volunteered their lives for their country. When America entered these wars, 78 residents of this street from 35 families helped defend our country and our allies.

Eight of these brave men died for our country. Their names are: Tony Pompa, Frank Sandoval, Joseph Sandoval, Willie Sandoval, Claro Soliz, Peter Masias, Joe Gomez, and Johnny Munos.

In honor of these brave men and their other fellow soldiers who fought by their sides the community renamed this street in May 1967. Four years later a memorial park was built on Second Street and in 2007 a monument was added.

My resolution recognizes the sacrifices that these brave soldiers made and what their families did to support our country during that difficult time. We cannot forget those that have gone before us and this resolution will ensure that we do not. This resolution would not cost anything, just the time we should spend in honor of our veterans and those brave men that gave their lives. On behalf of a grateful

nation, we honor the 40th Anniversary of Hero Street Memorial Park. The service and sacrifice of all who served, and their families, must not be forgotten.

SUPPORT OF H.R. 3079, THE U.S.-PANAMA FREE TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT (PFTA)

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3079, the U.S.-Panama Free Trade Promotion Implementation Act.

At House Democrats insistence, the Panama FTA was renegotiated to require Panama to comply with international labor standards and environmental agreements.

Additionally, at the urging of House Democrats, the Obama Administration continued negotiations with Panama and ultimately achieved completion of the U.S.-Panama Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA), ensuring necessary tax transparency and addressing concerns about Panama's status as a tax haven.

This agreement is expected to increase our current trade surplus with Panama, which was \$5.7 billion in 2010, and level the playing field by eliminating Panama's import duties on U.S. goods.

This renegotiated agreement deserves our support, and that is why I vote in favor today.

NATIONAL FOOD DAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to Food Day and the importance of addressing our hunger crisis in America.

Spearheaded by the Center for Science in the Public Interest, Rep. ROSA DELAURIO and Sen. TOM HARKIN, Food Day enlists anti-hunger advocates, physicians, authors, and elected officials to advocate for healthy, affordable food produced in a sustainable, humane way. I am honored to be a member of the Food Day Advisory Board.

While Food Day and its advocates focus on a number of important food-related issues, one that Congress has failed to fully understand is the crisis of hunger. In 2010, 14.5 percent of American households were food insecure, meaning they lacked the capacity to put enough food on their tables.

Several federal programs work in conjunction to prevent hunger. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) keeps 45 million people from going hungry. Over half of SNAP beneficiaries are children, and eight percent are over age 60. The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program provides food assistance to 9 million mothers and children under five years of age. These programs are needed now more than ever.

The Republican Budget, passed in the House with no Democratic support, would cut

\$127 billion from SNAP over the next decade, a 20 percent cut. The House Agriculture Appropriations bill, passed with no Democratic support, would also cut SNAP funding.

The 2011 Continuing Budget Resolution cut WIC by \$504 million, and the 2012 Agriculture Appropriations bill would cut it by an additional \$700 million, or roughly 10 percent.

These are numbers, but they affect real people. I recently received a dozens of messages on paper plates from the Ezra Multi-Service Center in Chicago. The plates answer the question: what would happen if SNAP benefits are cut?

One anonymous client said that if the program is cut it would be impossible for her to feed her four children.

Robert from Chicago said that he has lost everything. "If my benefits were cut I wouldn't eat for a while."

A third client said "if my benefits were cut, I would not be able to eat or sleep. I would have to look in the garbage for food."

In the wealthiest nation on earth, that is simply unacceptable.

I urge my colleagues who are members of the Select Committee on Deficit Reduction not to consider cuts to SNAP, WIC, or other nutrition programs that serve as a lifeline for families struggling to make ends meet. Instead we should look to raise revenues by increasing tax rates on individuals and corporations who can afford to contribute more.

As we work to rein in our deficit, we must ensure that no American is forced to go without food.

NATIONAL FOOD DAY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today is National Food Day—a full day devoted to all aspects of the American food system: farms, industry, grocers, schools, and most importantly people. One stated goal of Food Day is to "expand access to food and alleviate hunger." Mr. Speaker, it's unconscionable that hunger continues to exist in America. Nearly 50 million Americans go hungry every year. Over 17 million—one third—of them are children. The sad truth is hunger is a reality in every community. There is not one part of America, not one Congressional district, that isn't touched by hunger.

In my own district, as in many others places in America, volunteers help to alleviate hunger. On Saturday, I joined children and their parents in gleaning apples. We picked fresh, healthy fruit from an orchard to be delivered to the local food bank. If not for these volunteers, the apples would go to waste. It's an inevitable part of farming—produce that isn't ripe or is missed in the initial harvest stays on the trees or in the fields—because going back for a second harvest is too costly.

At times volunteering is costly too. Transporting gleaned food to the very people who rely on it takes time and fuel. And we're finding that the transportation costs are becoming a barrier to delivering gleaned food, and this fresh produce is left to rot in the fields instead of helping to feed hungry Americans.

That is why Representative EMERSON and I introduced H.R. 3177, the Hunger Relief